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## Just the Facts®

Phone/Fax:  
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Email:  
publish@justthefacts.net

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## Rossville School Board approves deactivating high school

ROSSVILLE—Local voters may decide in November if Rossville-Alvin High School students will go to other schools.

At a special meeting Monday, the board voted to move forward with deactivating the district high school, allowing its students to attend Hoopeston Area or Bismarck-Henning high schools.

The action is contingent upon acceptance by Bismarck-Henning and Hoopeston Area and is being done with an eye towards forming a cooperative high school with all three districts when the state provides incentives for such schools, said board member Roger

Satterwhite, who made the motion to deactivate.

The action came after board members set goals and reviewed eight methods of school reorganization. The goals included keeping the district grade school open, maintaining local control, utilizing the high school building, no tax increases, improving educational and extra-curricular offerings and looking out for district staff.

Of the eight reorganization choices, the board agreed that three - deactivation, a cooperative high school and conversion from a dual district to dual districts for the



## Digging it

Alderman John Haughee puts his back into it at a groundbreaking ceremony Tuesday for the new CVS Pharmacy. Also pictured are city council members Nancy Stipp, Carl Ankenbrand and Ed Lotz; Mayor Chalmers Flint; Tom Lowe of Gallagher Commercial; Mark Cherancy, CVS Pharmacy supervisor; Roosevelt White, CVS district manager; Karen Young, local CVS manager; and Dan Walker of Tom Jacobs & Associates. The 10,000 square foot pharmacy is expected to be completed in July and is the anchor of new development at Rtes. 1 and 9.

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## Masonic Lodge 709 AF&AM Sausage & Egg Breakfast

Orange Juice, Toast & Coffee  
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\$4 donation  
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5-8 p.m.

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See ROSSVILLE on other side

### Rossville

*continued from other side*

high and grade school, appeared to meet most of the goals.

Of those, board members agreed that it was unlikely either Hoopeston Area or Bismarck-Henning would agree to form dual districts. Also, Superintendent Carl Sartwell said the tax rate for a dual district would be somewhat higher for some taxpayers.

As for the cooperative high school, that form of reorganization has never been done in the state and there are no state financial incentives for the method, which must be done for a minimum of 20 years.

Deactivation carries no incentives either, because the state considers it a stopgap measure until a permanent form of reorganization is approved.

Despite the lack of incentives, deactivation will provide what the district wants - for now. With a nod from the other districts, the board will put a referendum on the November ballot.

The board does not anticipate problems with district accepting students. Hoopeston Area board president Larry Lobb, who attended the meeting, said HA is

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willing for students to come to Hoopeston. Satterwhite said Bismarck-Henning board members he has spoken to feel the same way.

A simple majority of Rossville-Alvin voters is needed to pass the referendum, which will then allow parents to choose which high school their children will attend. The district will then pay tuition to receiving districts. Teachers will move to receiving districts in the same percentages as student attendance.

Prior to the vote, other options were discussed, such as raising the district tax rate by \$1. Board member Eric Roberts said the tax hike would raise an additional \$300,000, enough to help the district say afloat for about two years. "But that wouldn't do us any good," he said. "It's not worth burdening the taxpayers. Besides, it wouldn't pass anyway," he said.

The vote was unanimous but member Craig

### Police News



**Gary L. Catron**, 32, of 703½ E. McCracken, was arrested at 3:24 p.m. Monday at his home. Catron, wanted on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear, was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

### Weather



Chance of showers today. High 46. Tonight, chance of rain or snow. Low 32. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High 48, low 33.

For current weather conditions, call **Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.**

### Second Chance Saloon

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Stop

Potter abstained, saying after the meeting that he wanted more time to present financial data presented at the meeting.

Price said he believes the public will accept the board's action. "It provides an opportunity for students to go in either direction," he said.

He and other members hope the Rossville-Alvin High School building can be used to continue the district's ag program, some math and science classes and vocational courses.

Rice, too, said he believes the public will favor deactivation. "It gives people choices," he said. "As we go into this transitional process, we want to give the people as many choices as we can."

In other action, the board unanimously approved an intergovernmental agreement with the Rossville Village Board for the Tax Increment Financing district.

The agreement will allow the district - and other

### Classifieds

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2 bdr. apt. No pets. Some appliances included. Available April 1. Deposit, references. Hoopeston. \$275/mo. (217) 304-3477.

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